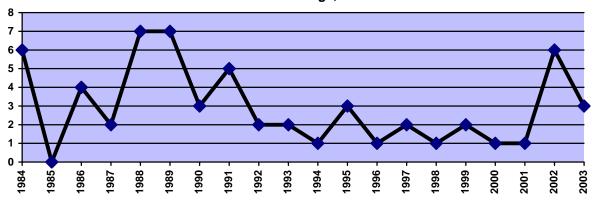
# Murder

Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter, as defined in the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, is the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. The classification of this offense, as for all other Crime Index Offenses, is based solely on police investigation, as opposed to the determination of a court, medical examiner, coroner, jury, or other judicial body. Not included in the count for this offense classification are deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident, justifiable homicides, or attempts to murder or assaults with the intent to murder, which are categorized as aggravated assaults.

## Twenty Year Annual Totals: Murder in Cambridge, 1984-2003



#### No murders reported in Cambridge from Jan-June 2004

#### <u>Characteristics of Murder in Cambridge</u>

There were no murders recorded in Cambridge in the first half of 2004. The last murder registered in the City was the Toomey/DiBenedetto case on November 27, 2003. Arrests were made in all three of the murders in Cambridge in 2003.

Seven of the 32 murder cases reported in Cambridge since 1990 remain under investigation, including two of the six murders that occurred in 2002.

#### Current status of 2003 murder cases

- Accused killer Anthony DiBenedetto may face life in prison with no chance of parole for the slaying of Mary Toomey, 75, in November. DiBenedetto, 46, was indicted by a grand jury at a closed proceeding Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Alexander Pring-Wilson, arrested for stabbing a local Cambridge teen last April, has filed a motion to suppress statements he made to police and friends the night of the incident, claiming he was suffering from a concussion and post-traumatic stress disorder. In a motion filed in Middlesex Superior Court on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, defense attorney Jeffrey A. Denner and associates wrote that Pring-Wilson's contradicting statements the night of the incident "were not knowing, intelligent, or voluntary."
- Markendy Jean of Malden was identified as the prime suspect responsible for the shooting death of a man on June 8<sup>th</sup> near Porter Square. Jean turned himself over to the authorities in the early morning hours of July 3, 2003 and is awaiting trial.

#### Murder Across the State & Nation

In 2003\*, the number of murders reported in the United States represented an increase of 1.3% over 2002. Since the early 1990s, the murder total for the nation has been steadily decreasing. In 1992, there were a total of 23,760 homicides, which is 32% higher than the 2002 total. In 1998, the total was 5% higher than the 2002 total.

Nationwide, murder victims are 34% female and 77% male; Cambridge has a higher percentage of female murder victims (probably because of our relatively low number of gang-related homicides, in which the victims are usually male) than the national average. The average male murder victim is in his mid-20's and the average female murder victim is either in her early 20's or late 30's. Murder victims in Cambridge are consistent in age with the national trend. Male victims are usually in the mid-20's and female victims are usually close to 40 years old.

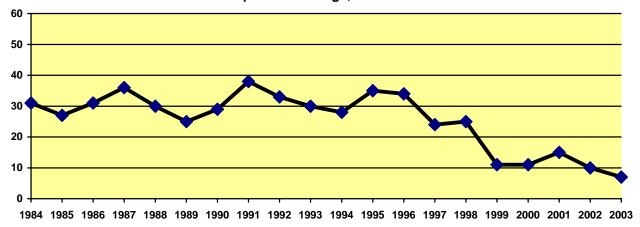
In 2002\*, Massachusetts on the whole seemed to fare better than the national average, even though the state experienced a statistically nominal increase of 33 incidents (145 in 2001 to 178 in 2002). Boston reported the majority of the state's homicides (60 in 2002). Of the towns surrounding Cambridge (Watertown, Belmont, Arlington, and Somerville) only Somerville reported any homicides (3) in 2002.

\*Based on preliminary UCR data. Complete statistics for 2003 are not yet available for Massachusetts.

# RAPE

Forcible Rape, as defined by the Uniform Crime Reporting Program is the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force, and assaults with the intent to commit rape, are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses are excluded.

## Twenty Year Annual Totals: Rape in Cambridge, 1984-2003



#### 3 reported in first half 2003 • 7 reported in first half 2004

There were 7 crimes that fit the Uniform Crime reporting definition of Rape or Attempted Rape reported in the second half of 2004. All of these incidents were reported between April and June. This number includes one attempted rape. The Sexual Assault Unit reports that so far six of the seven cases in 2004 were cleared by arrest.

#### Categories of Rape

- Acquaintance Rapes are non-domestic rapes committed by someone who knows the victim. They include
  rapes of co-workers, schoolmates, friends, and other acquaintances, including "date rapes." Three of the
  rapes in 2004 fell into this category.
- Blitz Rapes are stranger rapes in which the rapist assaults the victim on the street with no prior contact.
   Generally, the suspect "comes out of nowhere." None of the rapes in 2004 have fallen into this category.
- Contact Rapes are stranger rapes in which the suspect contacts the victim and tries to gain his/her confidence before assaulting him/her. Contact rapists typically pick up their victims in bars, lure them into their cars or houses, or otherwise try to coerce the victim into a situation in which they can begin their assault. The attempted rape reported in 2004 falls into this category. In this instance, the victim was assaulted by her neighbor during a home invasion.
- **Domestic Rapes** involve rapes between spouses, romantic partners, and family members. **Three of the reported incidents in 2004 fell into this category.**

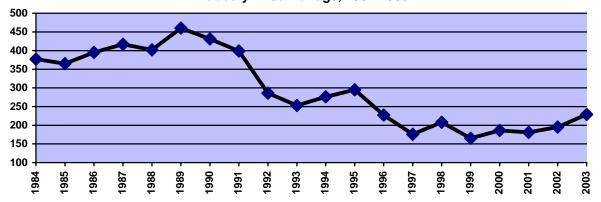
#### ADDITIONAL SEX RELATED CRIMES IN 2004

In the fall of 2003, an indecent assault pattern emerged in Harvard Square, stopping in late January when police arrested a Harvard custodian. A second indecent assault pattern emerged in Harvard Square in January and February due to a bike riding assailant. At present, the three assaults by the bike-riding suspect remain under investigation, and there has not been an assault in this series since February.

# ROBBERY

Robbery is the taking or attempted taking of anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear. This crime includes muggings, purse snatchings, and bank hold-ups.

## Twenty Year Annual Totals: Robbery in Cambridge, 1984-2003



#### 112 reported in first half 2003 • 113 reported in first half 2004

Туре	Jan- June 2003	Jan- June 2004	% Change
Commercial Robbery	23	28	22%
Street Robbery	89	85	-4.5%
Total	112	113	.9%

Overall, the total number of robberies in the first half increased by less than 1% (.9%) from 2003 to 2004. When the categories are analyzed separately, we find there was a 22% increase reported in commercial robberies and a 4.5% decrease reported in street robberies.

#### COMMERCIAL ROBBERY

Nine of the 28 commercial robberies in Cambridge to date were bank robberies. Two of these occurred in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of the year. To date 2 individuals have been arrested in connection to at least 3 of the robberies.

Eight commercial robberies were reported in the second quarter of the year. Two of these incidents were considered "professional" robberies in which the perpetrators arrived with weapons, disabled cameras, demanded money from the safes and tied up the store clerks before leaving. Both of these incidents occurred on Fridays in Riverside at pizza or café type establishments.

Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Robberies			
Business Districts	Jan- June 2002	Jan- June 2003	Jan- June 2004
Galleria/East Cambridge	5	3	5
Kendall Square/MIT	1	4	1
Inman Square	1	2	2
Central Square	2	4	6
Cambridgeport/Riverside	0	0	1
Bay Square/Upper B.way	1	0	2
Harvard Square	2	1	4
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	2	3	1
Porter Square	1	3	4
Alewife/West Cambridge	2	3	2

In other incidents, the suspects commonly aimed a gun at the clerk, demanded money and fled. Weapons were shown or implied in 5 incidents; the only injury reported was of a taxi driver who was assaulted prior to a robbery.

#### STREET ROBBERY

There were 40 street robberies reported between April and June, the majority (25%) taking place in Area 4.

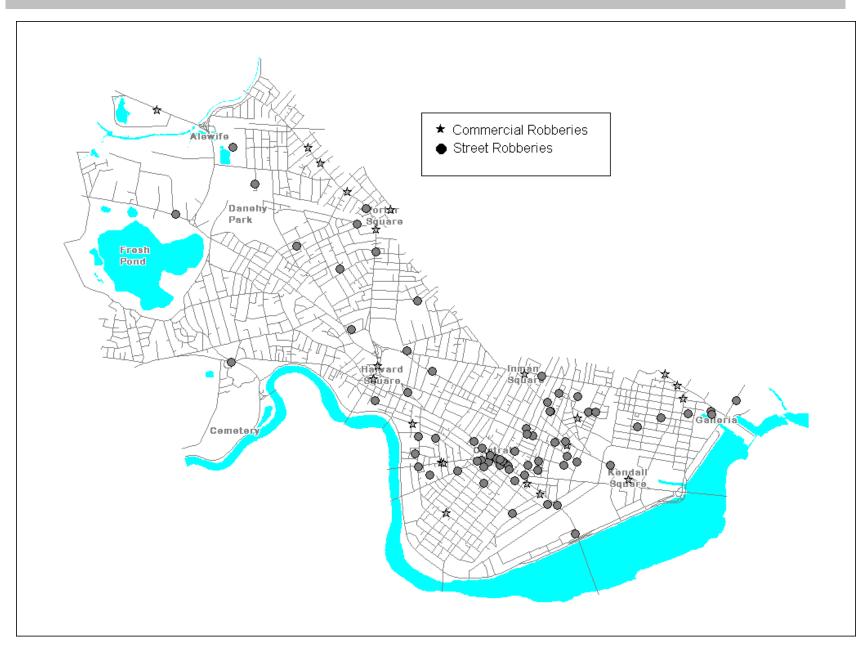
The area surrounding Central Square experienced a pattern of street robberies that began in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter and continued into the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. There were six robberies within blocks of each other on Pearl, Magazine and Lawrence Streets; victims were threatened with guns in four incidents. This pattern slowly dissipated with the arrests of key suspects.

One street robbery was considered a home invasion, where a woman attacked an elderly man with a hatchet and stole a lithograph from his apartment. The victim had just arrived home from work when the suspect allegedly forced her way into his apartment and pushed him to the ground. The suspect in that case was later arrested and it was discovered that she worked for the management company for the building where the victim lived.

Geographic Breakdown of Street Robberies in Cambridge			
Neighborhood	Jan- June 2002	Jan- June 2003	Jan- June 2004
East Cambridge	7	5	8
MIT	0	0	1
Inman/ Harrington	6	6	2
Area 4	14	16	23
Cambridgeport	7	19	15
Mid-Cambridge	5	7	7
Riverside	5	9	15
Agassiz	1	2	1
Peabody	1	7	5
West Cambridge	10	4	1
North Cambridge	4	11	5
Cambridge Highlands	1	1	1
Strawberry Hill	1	2	1

There were no major street robbery patterns late in the second quarter, but Riverside did see two incidents within minutes of each other on one evening. On Saturday night in May at 11:05pm, three victims were approached by 2 black males in their twenties. One suspect had a handgun and stated, "Empty your pockets!" The male victim threw his wallet on the ground and the suspect grabbed it and the women's purses and fled. Approximately 15 minutes later in the same area, two males matching the description in the previous incident approached a victim, who was in his car after delivering pizza. One suspect pointed a black gun at the victim, who was able to flee without harm.

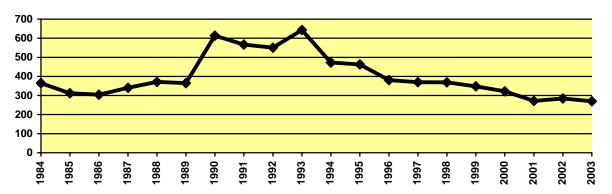
### Robberies Reported in Cambridge Between January 1, 2004 and June 30, 2004



# Aggravated Assault

Aggravated Assault describes an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Attempts are included.

## Twenty Year Annual Totals: Aggravated Assault in Cambridge, 1984-2003



#### 114 reported in first half 2003 • 128 reported in first half 2004

The beginning of the year saw 128 aggravated assaults in Cambridge. The majority of those incidents (68%) occurred between people who knew each other, such as acquaintances or family members, as is commonly the case. An arrest was made at the scene in over 40% of these incidents. The number of aggravated assaults reported in Cambridge has remained relatively steady over the past three years, but is down dramatically from the early 1990's.

Of the assaults committed by strangers scenarios often involved incidents that occurred in bars in the early morning or involved traffic or parking issues. Patterns are not often detected in these types of incidents because

#### **Types of Weapons Used**

Weapon	Total
Hands/Feet	42
Knife	29
Other/Unknown	24
Handgun	11
Automobile	6
Shodfoot	6
Bottle/ Glass	5
BB Gun	3
Scissors	2
Total	128

they are usually not premeditated but rather spontaneously result from arguments in bars, in traffic or between homeless individuals.

The domestic assaults most commonly occurred between individuals who were currently or previously in a romantic relationship. As is quite common, in many of the domestic cases in 2004 the victims and suspects have been involved in multiple incidents in the past of varying nature.

Three incidents in the second

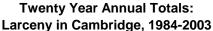
# Relationships Between Offender and Victim

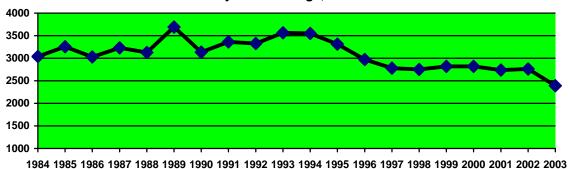
Relationship	Total
Acquaintance	37
Stranger	34
Romantic Partner	13
Spouse/ Ex-Spouse	10
Unknown	7
Ex-Romantic Partner	7
Parent/Child	5
Schoolmate	4
Roommate	4
Co-Worker/Employee	4
Sibling	2
Neighbor	1
Total	128

quarter were juvenile related incidents among schoolmates. Each of the victims in these cases reported having a history of problems with the schoolmates that attacked them. Knives were threatened or implied in two of the school-related cases.

# LARCENY

Larceny is the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession of another. It includes crimes such as shoplifting, pick-pocketing, thefts from motor vehicles, thefts of auto parts and accessories, horse thefts, and bicycle thefts, in which no use of force, violence, fraud, or trespass occurs. In the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, this crime category does not include embezzlement, "con" games, forgery, or worthless checks. Motor vehicle theft is also excluded from this category, as it is a separate index crime offense.





#### 1,156 reported in first half 2003 • 1,290 reported in first half 2004

Туре	Jan- June 2003	Jan- June 2004
Larceny from a Building	281	327
Larceny from Motor Vehicle	318	342
Larceny of a Bicycle	62	101
Larceny from a Person	142	139
Shoplifting	176	226
Larceny from a Residence	101	101
Larceny of a License Plate	39	25
Larceny of Services	18	12
Miscellaneous Larceny	19	17
<b>Total Larcenies</b>	1,156	1,290

The total number of larcenies in Cambridge increased by 12% in the first six months of 2004 over this time last year, although there were individual decreases in four categories. The category that saw the greatest increase was larceny of bicycle, which increased 63% over the same time period last year.

#### **Larcenies from Persons**

Larcenies from persons decreased by 2% in the first half of 2004 over last year. Restaurants in Harvard Square continue to be hotspots for this type of crime, particularly in the summer months. Approximately 46% of the reported larcenies from persons in the second quarter of the year occurred while the victims were dining. Sixty percent of the larceny while dining incidents took place in Harvard Square.

The second quarter also saw nine incidents of pickpocketing, all of those occurring in Central or Harvard Squares. Additionally, the theft of unattended property remains one of the most common types of preventable larceny from person recorded. Approximately 18% of the thefts were of unattended items.

Larcenies from persons are generally easy to prevent. Remember to always keep your belongings within your control. Do not leave purses on the floor, on the back of your chair, or otherwise unattended. Do not leave wallets or cell phones in the pockets of hanging coats.

#### **Larcenies of Bicycles**

There were 101 reports of stolen bicycles in the first half of 2004, up 63% from this time last year. Over half (55%) of the stolen bikes had locks on them when they were stolen. The larcenies were spread throughout each neighborhood, but North Cambridge reported the highest number of thefts (17%). Approximately 82% of the bike thefts occurred in the second quarter, clearly because this is a crime that occurs mostly in the warmer weather. There were at least eight arrests for bike theft since the beginning of 2004.

#### **Larcenies from Buildings**

A trend that was recorded in the first quarter of the year was larcenies from area hospitals. Thirteen incidents were reported in the first quarter; six of those occurred at Mt. Auburn Hospital. These thefts targeted unattended belongings in lockers or behind desks. There were two additional incidents reported in the second quarter, but the major trend has dissipated.

#### **Larcenies from Motor Vehicles**

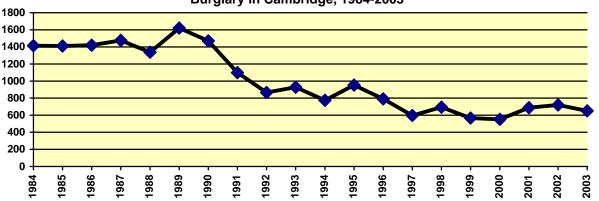
In the first quarter of the year, larcenies from motor vehicles were up 43%. In the second quarter, Peabody, Cambridgeport and Mid-Cambridge reported the highest total numbers of larcenies from motor vehicles compared to the other neighborhoods. Theft of Audi headlights has continued to be a problem with 11 incidents reported just in the 8 weeks between April and June.

The most common method of entry into the cars was by breaking a window; this method was used in 31% of the incidents. Car doors were left unlocked in approximately 12% of the cars targeted for larcenies in the second quarter.

# BURGLARY

Burglary describes the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. The use of force to gain entry is not required to classify an offense as burglary. Burglary attempts are included in the total.

## Twenty Year Annual Totals: Burglary in Cambridge, 1984-2003



#### 253 reported in first half 2003 • 270 reported in first half 2004

Overall, Burglary in Cambridge increased 9% over the first half of the year compared to the first half of 2003. Further analysis shows that the increase was driven by a 29% increase in residential burglary, but tempered by the 36% decrease in commercial burglary.

Burglary Type	Jan- June 2003	Jan- June 2004	% Change
Commercial Burglary	74	47	-36%
Residential Burglary	173	223	+29%
Total	247	270	+9%

#### COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

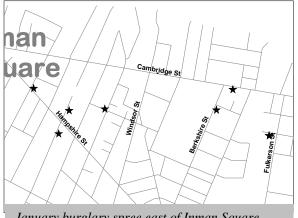
There were no major commercial burglary patterns in Cambridge in the first half, contributing to the decline in commercial burglary reported overall. The only potential pattern identified included sporadic Sunday night breaks into offices in the 600 block of Central Square, which was active in the early spring but has since dissipated.

ESTABLISHMENT TYPE	Jan-June 2003	Jan-June 2004
Misc. Establishments	30	24
Industrial/Construction	1	1
Business/Law Offices	17	11
Church	3	1
Clothing Store	5	1
Bar/Restaurant	14	4
Auto Sales/Service	1	1
School	3	3
Assisted Living	0	1
Total	74	47

Geographic Breakdown of Commercial			
Burglaries in	Camb	ridge	
<b>Business District</b>	Jan- June 2002	Jan- June 2003	Jan- June 2004
Galleria/East Cambridge	14	6	2
Kendall Square/MIT	3	6	2
Inman Square	10	13	5
Central Square	16	8	17
Cambridgeport/Riverside	3	3	1
Bay Square/Upper	4	9	2
Broadway			
Harvard Square	15	13	5
1500–1900 Mass. Ave.	1	1	4
Porter Square	5	9	2
Alewife/West	10	6	7
Cambridge			
Total	81	74	47

#### RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

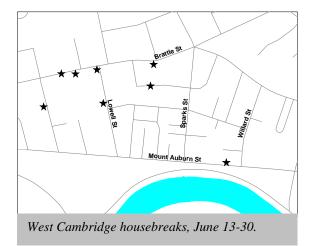
As noted previously, residential burglaries (also called "housebreaks") increased by 60% in the first three months of 2004. There was a cluster of housebreaks in January and February between Inman and Central Squares. From January 5-7, there were 11 housebreaks in the area highlighted on the map (below, left).



January burglary spree east of Inman Square.

prying open or breaking the locks of front doors. Housebreaks heated up in Peabody again in May, with three incidents reported on Chauncy St.

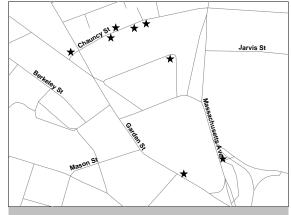
The City's only recent housebreak pattern involved a spree of incidents in West Cambridge in June. These tended to occur in the mid-afternoon hours and were centered on Brattle St. and are mapped below.



Although the incidents were scattered, some of them appeared to be related.

Housebreaks then began to heat up in Peabody, with increased activity between February and March. Fifteen housebreaks were reported here in this time period, nine of them in the five weeks between the beginning of February through the beginning of March. Three of the breaks were unsuccessful attempts. Of the successful breaks, the most common

methods of entry included



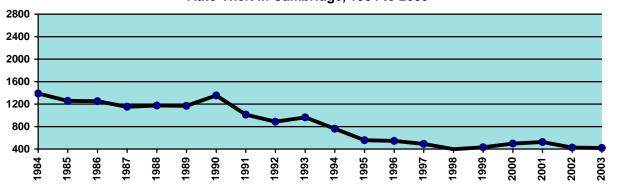
May housebreaks in Peabody.

Neighborhood	Jan- June. 2002	Jan- June 2003	Jan- June 2004
East Cambridge	25	19	6
MIT	0	1	1
Inman/Harrington	29	4	17
Area 4	22	21	26
Cambridgeport	38	19	27
Mid-Cambridge	56	29	34
Riverside	21	13	16
Agassiz	30	5	22
Peabody	30	22	28
West Cambridge	15	11	21
North Cambridge	32	24	22
Cambridge Highlands	0	2	0
Strawberry Hill	4	4	3

# AUTO THEFT

Defined as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle, this offense category includes the theft of automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, and snowmobiles. This definition excludes the taking of a motor vehicle for temporary use by persons having lawful access.

### Twenty Year Annual Totals: Auto Theft in Cambridge, 1984 to 2003



#### 198 reported in first half 2003 • 209 reported in first half 2004

NEIGHBORHOOD	Jan- June 2003	Jan- June 2004	% Change 03-04	% of TOTAL
East Cambridge	19	33	+74%	15.7%
M.I.T. Area	3	8	*Inc.	3.8%
Inman/Harrington	28	22	-21%	10.5%
Area 4	23	21	-9%	10.0%
Cambridgeport	33	33	No Change	15.7%
Mid-Cambridge	19	16	-16%	7.6%
Riverside	16	10	-38%	4.8%
Agassiz	8	3	*Inc.	1.4%
Peabody	12	23	+92%	11%
West Cambridge	18	11	-39%	5.2%
North Cambridge	14	19	+36%	9.0%
Cambridge Highlands	4	4	No Change	1.9%
Strawberry Hill	1	5	*Inc.	2.4%
Unknown	-	2	*Inc	1%
TOTAL	198	209	+5.5%	
*Inc.=percentages not calculated for numbers so small to prevent a statistically misleading percentage.				

Cambridge saw auto thefts increase slightly during the first six months of 2004 when measured against the same time period last year. In all, there was a 5.5% increase compared to 2003. Leading the increase was the Peabody neighborhood, which saw auto thefts almost double. East Cambridge and Cambridgeport led all neighborhoods in total thefts with thirty-three vehicles each. Six neighborhoods across Cambridge saw their levels of auto theft decrease from last year. West Cambridge led these areas with almost a 40% decrease. Consistently among the nation's most stolen autos, Honda Accords and Civics once again are the most popular vehicles in auto thefts.

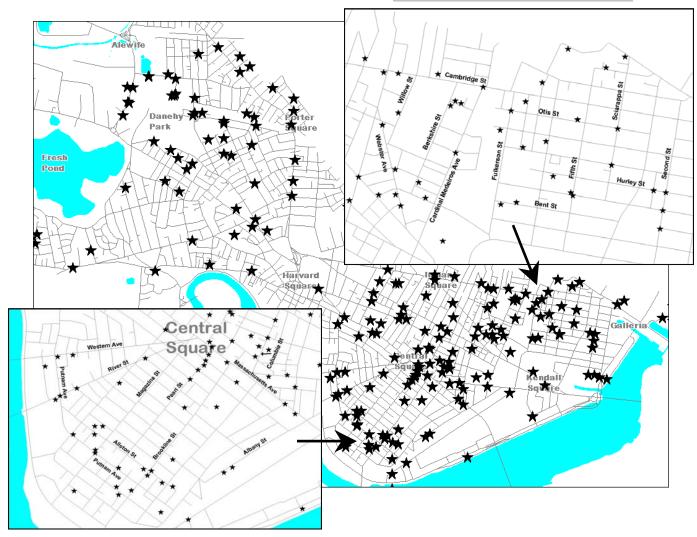
Incidents were spread evenly throughout the week, however the most popular time appears to be between 5:00PM and 5:00AM. During this twelve-hour span there were a reported 134 thefts.

Out of 209 auto thefts reported in 2004 as of June 30<sup>th</sup>, 126 have been recovered. All except one of the recoveries occurred in Massachusetts, and more specifically in the immediate area surrounding Boston. The one exception was recovered in Providence, Rhode Island. Leading the list of locations where autos were recovered is Boston with fifty, Cambridge with thirty-four and then Somerville with thirteen. In Cambridge, the Area 4 and Inman/Harrington neighborhoods combined for nine recoveries. There were five arrests of individuals involved with the theft of motor vehicles.

Easily the most popular street for auto thefts, Mass Ave., snaking its way through Cambridge was accountable for thirteen vehicle thefts. Allston St. in Cambridgeport and Alewife Brook Pkwy each had five incidents.

TOP FOUR CAR MAKE AND MODEL STOLEN IN CAMBRIDGE		
MAKE NUMBER		
Honda Civic	31	
Honda Accord	24	
Acura Integra	17	
Toyota Camry	14	

RECOVERY LOCATIONS	
Boston	50
Cambridge	34
Somerville	13
Everett	5
Medford	4
Waltham	3
Chelsea	2
Dedham	1
Framingham	1
Lynn	2
New Bedford	1
Other	10



As seen in the map and insert maps, most of the car thefts in Cambridge occur below Harvard Square. In the swath of neighborhoods encompassing Cambridgeport, Area 4, Inman/Harrington and East Cambridge there were over one hundred auto thefts. Two other hot spots in Cambridge appear on the streets surrounding Danehy Park in Peabody, and in the Mid-Cambridge neighborhood.